

LEADER

NETWORK

May 2009 Volume 22



Lions Clubs International



Finishing Strong

While we've all heard about the importance of first impressions, with less than three months to go in Lions year 2008-2009, now is the time to focus on a strong finish.

As a Lions leader, ask yourself the following:

- What were our goals at the beginning of 2008-2009?
- What action plans did we develop to achieve those goals?
- Have we fully executed those plans?
- Have we achieved our goals?
- What steps can we take in the remaining months to ensure we meet and perhaps, exceed those goals?

Finishing strong involves dedication, commitment, hard work, and a clear focus on our goals. Consider the most accomplished athletes. What is more important - how they begin the race or how they finish? For the business executive, is it more memorable to start a presentation correctly or to deliver a strong conclusion? The same holds true for Lions leaders. While the start is important, the finish is everything - it determines whether you win the race or not.

A good start may help you reach the finish line faster, but without a strong push in the final stretch, you just might come up short.

Now is the time – FINISH STRONG!

Spotlighting Leaders

Effective leadership is vital to the health of any organization, and our association is no exception. Not only do the decisions of Lions leaders affect how we operate, but they play a key role in how we are perceived by others. Good leadership impacts both service and membership. As Lions, we have the opportunity to develop a new generation of leaders who can help us continue the great work we do in the present and secure our standing as the world's largest and most effective service association in the future.

Successful businesses profile and provide a career path to potential new leaders, and Lions Clubs International should follow a similar path in identifying and developing its own future leaders. Leadership must pass from Lion to Lion and from generation to generation, bringing fresh ideas, vision, energy, and renewed enthusiasm.

Leadership development begins at the club level, where we identify Lions who display an eagerness to contribute their talents and time to the club and community. The Lions Mentoring Program is the ideal way to provide the background and tools these potential leaders need to succeed. As the mentoring program progresses, club leaders can put these potential leaders in positions of responsibility and support them as they grow.

For more information about the Lions Mentoring Program visit the LCI website or contact International Headquarters at lionsmentoring@lionsclubs.org.

In our next issue, we will look closely at some valuable LCI resources designed to develop new leaders and strengthen the skills of current leaders as well, the Lions Leadership Institutes and the Leadership Resource Center.

Until then, keep in mind these words from Rosabeth Moss Kantor, an authority on organizational change and professor of business at Harvard University, "Leaders are more powerful role models when they learn than when they teach."



Visit us at the Leadership Division Booth!

Leadership Division staff will also be on hand throughout the week to answer your questions and hear your ideas on all of LCI's leadership development programs. Stop by our booth in the Convention Center – we'll be looking for you!

photo courtesy of MeetMinneapolis.com

2009 International Convention – Minneapolis

Please join us for two exciting leadership seminars:

Council Chairpersons Seminar

Thursday, July 9

1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Room 210 A & B, Minneapolis Convention Center

If you are an incoming council chairperson, please plan to join us for the Council Chairperson Seminar. Learn about the 2009-2010 international theme, Move to Grow, and your multiple district's role in the Global Membership Team. We'll review elements of effective teams and the potential challenges you may face throughout your term. Through presentation and discussion, we hope to help you to maximize your success as a council chairperson!

The LEADERSHIP EXCHANGE

Thursday, July 9

2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Room 211 A-D, Minneapolis Convention Center

Back by popular demand, join us at the 4th annual The LEADERSHIP EXCHANGE!

Tackle a variety of leadership skills at this highly interactive session where you choose the topics you want to learn about. An all-star team of Lions leaders from around the globe will facilitate four, twenty-five minute discussions on various skills designed to increase your effectiveness as a leader.

In between discussions, you may even find yourself suiting up as we raffle off the jerseys of famous Minnesota team athletes!

Join us – and go from leadership rookie to leadership champion! Draft a friend and don't be late for this big event.

MERL Chairpersons Seminars 2009-2010

In September 2009, LCI will be offering the multiple and single district Membership, Extension, Retention and Leadership Development Chairpersons Seminar for multiple and single district MERL teams in the USA, Affiliates, Bermuda, the Bahamas, Canada and Europe.

This program provides the opportunity for MERL team members to understand their responsibilities, explore core leadership skills and establish goals and action plans to guide their efforts. We'll also review the Global Membership Team initiative, and how MERL and the GMT can collaborate to maximize success.

It is vitally important that each multiple and single district report their MERL Chairpersons' information to LCI Headquarters as soon as possible, as invitations to this LCI-sponsored program are expected to be extended in late May. Eligible participants must be an official part of a multiple or single district MERL Team, serving in the capacity of Membership, Extension, Retention or Leadership Development Chairperson or as the MERL Team Coordinator.

LCI will provide lodging and meals throughout the duration of the seminar, while participants will be expected to pay for their transportation to and from the institute. Further details will be distributed via the invitations that will be sent to each MERL Team.

For more information, please contact the Institutes and Seminars Department at instsemi@lionsclubs.org or 630.468.6740.

**Constitutional Areas I & II
USA, Affiliates, Bermuda and the Bahamas
Canada**

**September 27-30, 2009
Memphis, Tennessee, USA**

**Constitutional Area IV
Europe
September 13-16, 2009
Tampere, Finland**



**Faculty Development Institute Graduates –
A Valuable Training Resource**

Over 100 Lions have participated in Faculty Development Institutes so far this Lions year. All are anxious to use their newly enhanced skills in local leadership development programs.

In July 2009, each district governor will receive information regarding FDI graduates from his or her district. When planning training events in your area, use this valuable resource to maximize your program’s impact.

For more information on Faculty Development Institutes, please visit the [Leadership Resource Center](#) or contact leadership@lionsclubs.org.

Congratulations to our most recent FDI graduates and thank you for your commitment to quality leadership development!

Oak Brook, Illinois, USA
February 13-16, 2009

- 1F, USA, Dennis S. Burns
- 11A1, USA, Susan D. Williams
- 11B2, USA, Hank J. Bosma
- 11B2, USA, Jerome Miller
- 12N, USA, Clare H. Crawford
- 14J, USA, Milton L. Tyler
- 18E, USA, Stephen R. Humphry
- 19C, USA, Ronald Smircich
- 21B, USA, John W. Hart
- 22D, USA, Robert D. Jones
- 23B, USA, Alan I. Daninhirsch
- 27A1, USA, Karla N. Harris
- 28T, USA, Leonard Miller
- 2S5, USA, Wesley S. Rodriguez
- 33N, USA, David K. O'Brien
- 37L, Canada, Claire A. Clark
- 37L, Canada, Betty Ann Robson
- 39W, USA, Deanna L. Rostock
- 4L4, USA, Jon E. Casteel
- 4L4, USA, Sheila R. Casteel
- 51E, Puerto Rico, Miriam Vazquez
- 51O, Puerto Rico, Jose J. Medina Mendez
- 60A, Trinidad & Tobago, Maria K. Byron
- A2, Canada, Cathy Tyler
- A12, Canada, Peter J. McCaque
- A711, Canada, Ilkka I. Ahola
- A711, Canada, Ronald J. Gillis
- A711, Canada, Jim D. Wilson
- A15, Canada, Orest J. Wilbur
- N1, Canada, George J. Mitton

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
March 27-30, 2009

- 305N2, Pakistan, Dr. Ahmad Shafi
- 305S1, Pakistan, Syed Shoeb Hyder
- 305S3, Pakistan, Shahid Aslam Khan
- 321A3, India, Deepak Talwar
- 321B1, India, Dr. Mahesh Singh Bhatnagar
- 321B2, India, D.P. Singh
- 321C2, India, Ashok C. Kapoor
- 321D, India, Rajiv Kumar Kukreja
- 322C2, India, Prabhat Palit
- 322C3, India, Pradip Kumar Chaterjee
- 323, India, Dr. Laxmikant Goverdhandas Rathi
- 324A4, India, M. Venkada Subbu
- 324D1, India, T.K. Swamiappan
- 324D2, India, Saish Anant Lawande
- 351, Lebanon, Samir Emile Abou Samra
- 411A, Kenya, Amarpreet K. Sembu
- 411A, Kenya, Dharendra K. Shah
- 412, Botswana, Vimla Ramkumar
- 413, Zambia, Patrick L. Lunda
- 413, Zambia, Abraham S. Nyirongo





Training Tool – Cooperative Learning

Cooperative learning is recommended because learning is enhanced by social interaction. Cooperative learning could be defined as a teaching method in which peers within teams take responsibility for each other’s learning experience as well as their own. The research clearly indicates that cooperation, compared with competitive and individualistic efforts, typically results in (a) higher achievement and greater productivity, (b) more caring, supportive, and committed relationships, and (c) greater psychological health, social competence, and self-esteem. Here are some examples of cooperative learning:

Group/Table Assignment

The students work together on the assignment until all group members successfully understand the concepts and have completed the assignment.

Think, Pair, and Share

A question is asked of all students in a training session and is initially answered individually by each student. Following this, the students are paired and they share their answers with each other. Then thirdly, the pairs share their answers with the whole group.

Circle the Expert

The class is divided into teams of 6 students, and the instructor surveys the students to determine who has special knowledge that could be shared with others in the class. The students with special knowledge (experts) are placed around the room, such as in the four corners. Each team sends a representative to each of the experts. The representatives form a circle around the expert to learn what the expert knows. When they return to their team, each representative teaches the new knowledge that they learned to the rest of their team.

Jigsaw

Small groups of 5 students are formed, and each group is given a particular topic. Each small group decides what is most important about their topic and how it should be taught to others. They practice, and then teach the topic to the rest of the group. After all groups have presented, questions or a quiz can be used to assess their learning.

These are only a few examples of many possible ways to use cooperative learning. Try this approach in your next training. Research has shown it will increase learning, relationships among students, interpersonal skills and self-confidence.

Bright Idea

The concept of diversity encompasses much more than different ethnicities. The 2009 Northwest Regional Lions Leadership Institute hosted by Multiple District 36 was enhanced by including a diverse group of participants from Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Canada. Out of 62 participants, 19 participants were Lions for less than 2 years, 22 were Lions for 3-10 years, 8 were Lions for 10-20 years and 13 were Lions for 20 or more years. Participants ranged in age from 25 to 74 years old. Three participants were members of new clubs. As reported by Past Council Chairperson Sonya Pulley, the institute was very successful. Each of the individual participants found value in the experience and learned from each other.

Seeking out participants representing different areas, knowledge and experience levels, will keep your training programs filled with fresh perspectives. What a Bright Idea!

We want to hear from you!

Our objective with The LEADER NETWORK is to provide you, our multiple and single district leadership development chairpersons, with information and ideas you can use in your leadership development efforts. If you have a Bright Idea, suggestions for future issues or a specific topic you would like to see addressed in the next issue (August 2009), please let us know. Your comments will be welcomed at leadership@lionsclubs.org



The difference in winning or losing is most often . . . not quitting.

Walt Disney